

## Director's Corner

The recent flood and mudslide disaster has had a devastating impact in rural Snohomish County. The outpouring of support offered from far and near to help this community recover has been amazing, and our one-stop system's efforts are an example. The disaster NEG funds recently awarded to Workforce Snohomish will not only offer work and an income to people who lost their jobs or their ability to commute to work outside of the area, but also another thread of hope to a devastated community. Meanwhile, seven Washington Service Corps AmeriCorps members assisted a total of 2,928 individuals in need of services such as housing, clothing and food in their four-week deployment. At this uncertain time, when ESD is taking yet another hard look at budget, these efforts underscore the value of our one-stop system to Washington citizens.

Thank you for all you do, and for showing once again that we can accomplish great things by working together.

~ Sandy Miller

## US DOL Funds 530 Slide Disaster National Emergency Grant (NEG)

As part of the response to the massive March 22nd landslide in the community of Oso (northeast of Arlington near the central Snohomish-Skagit county line), Employment Security submitted a Disaster National Emergency Grant (NEG) to the U.S. Department of Labor (US DOL) on April 14th after the landslide was designated a Category A major disaster area by President Obama. The request, a collaboration between ESD and Workforce Snohomish, was approved by the Secretary of Labor on April 21st and initially awards \$955,982, with up to \$2,867,947 available in total, if needed, from May 1st through October 31st. The NEG will fund roughly 140 temporary disaster clean-up workers, as well as workforce services to help those workers obtain permanent employment after their temporary clean-up jobs end. ESD is working closely with Workforce Snohomish contract the funds and coordinate clean-up efforts with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's joint field office that was set up to oversee operations.

## PY14/FY15 WIA Title 1-B Formula Allotments Announced

The US DOL announced states' WIA Title I-B and Wagner-Peyser formula grant allotments for PY14/FY15 through [Training and Employment Guidance Letter \(TEGL\) 18-13](#). Washington's total WIA allotment for PY14/FY15 will be approximately \$50.7 million – down 4.66 percent from \$53.2 million in PY13/FY14, while the state's Wagner-Peyser allotment for PY14 will be approximately \$13.8 million – down a modest 0.53 percent from \$13.9 million in PY13. Most of the overall WIA decline is borne by the Dislocated Worker program (-10.83 percent), while the Youth (-0.48 percent) and Adult (-0.79 percent) programs are only modestly impacted. Of note was an expansion of the amount of WIA funds available to the Governor for statewide activities from 5 percent this year to 8.75 percent in the coming year. Employment Security issued [WorkSource Information Notice \(WIN\) 0055](#) on April 10th to announce the sub-state WIA allocations. WIA grant packages have been issued by and need to be returned to the division's WIA program administration unit.

## Technical Assistance Directories Now Available on Inside WorkSource

WCDD has released a comprehensive [two-part technical assistance directory](#), which lists information about each functional area or program, along with key contact information. If you have other resources you'd like to online, please contact [Amy Lagerquist](#), division webmaster.



## MSFW and H-2A Program Handbooks Released

WCDD has released new Migrant Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) and H-2A program handbooks to agricultural areas across the state. These handbooks outline the responsibilities of ESD staff within WorkSource, and provide operational guidance aimed at creating statewide consistency in the provision of services that support the agricultural industry. The handbooks are available on [Inside WorkSource](#).

## USDOL Introduces “Equal Opportunity 101” Primer

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Civil Rights Center hosted an “Equal Opportunity 101” webinar on April 22 to provide an overview of the equal opportunity laws required of recipients of federal financial assistance (namely Section 188 of the Workforce Investment Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) and why our programs and services are open and accessible to all who qualify regardless of their heritage, medical impairments, age, beliefs, or appearances. The training is recommended for EO officers, managers at all levels, and others involved in administering federal employment system programs. While the webinar is not posted, you may view the [PowerPoint slide deck](#) online.

## Veterans Program Plans Exciting Summit

During the week of May 12-16, the Veterans Program will be holding its first education summit since 2010. This four-day event boasts a jam-packed agenda of veteran agency panelists, guest speakers, advanced skills training and networking opportunities. Sandy Miller will kick things off with opening remarks, followed by posting of the colors by the Yakama Warriors Association, a group of Native American veterans. Some of the event highlights include a veterans leadership panel, speakers from State and Federal Veterans Affairs, and a half-day roundtable event for cross-flow of best practices between statewide WorkSource offices. This exciting summit will be held at the Howard Johnson Hotel and Conference Center in sunny Yakima and promises a week of learning, networking and camaraderie. For more information, please contact [Sam Mitchell](#), Veterans Program Coordinator.

## Upcoming Microsoft IT Academy Webinars Announced

Elizabeth Iaukea from the Office of the Secretary of State will be offering two webinar sessions in June to instruct ESD and partner staff on how to connect customers with the Microsoft IT Academy, which is now offered at public libraries, tribal centers and community and technical colleges across the state. The sessions will be held June 24th and June 26th. For more information and to register for a session, please visit WCDD’s online [Staff Development calendar](#).

### New Policy Guidance

[WIN 0055](#) – Program Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 3016 WIA Program Allotments

[WIN 0056 Change 1](#) - Lower Living Standard Income Level by Family Size

[WIN 0057](#) – Guidance on the use of Federal Funding to Support the Marijuana Industry

### May 2014 Featured Events

*SKIES Read Only  
Refresher Training for  
Central Office Staff*

*May 29, 10:00 a.m.*

[Staff Development Calendar](#)



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